

UNESCO's Comprehensive Study on Internet Related Issues

Submitted by :

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Gender: Male

Category of Stakeholder: A. civil society and NGOs including individual users

Country: Bangladesh

Region: Asia and the Pacific

1. What can be done to reinforce the right to seek and receive information in the online environment?

New user friendly regulatory framework must be introduced while users can exercise without obstacles. The surveillance mechanism/ policies must not do any harm to the users. Censorship also should be withdrawn. There must be an environment that every individual user can get and receive information and express freely without any hassle. Internet rights must be upheld through campaign, advocacy and research.

2. What mechanisms can develop policies and common standards for open-licensed educational resources and scientific repositories, and for the long-term preservation of digital heritage?

For the long-term preservation of digital heritage, archiving is the best solution. Governments should come forward for a new mechanism for the common standard and open licensing.

3. How can greater progress be made as regards inclusive strategies for women and girls as well as marginalized and disabled people?

There must be policies for the corporate stakeholders so that they cant abuse rights of the children and women. The sexual content must not violate the rights of the children. For any abusive content there should be mechanism to bring them under law. An ethical standard to use content in the internet related to sexual contents should be enforced.

4. How can accessibility be facilitated through increases in locally produced and relevant content in different languages?

It depends on the country by country positions while Google can upgrade its translation mechanism. Country also should get to introduce with new mechanism and software for this.

Resource matters too, so there should be a facilitation for the countries to facilitate access in contents in local languages.

5. What can be done to institutionalize Media and Information Literacy (MIL) effectively in national educational systems?

Regulatory framework is necessary while commitment matters too for the government to introduce MIL

6. What are the current and emerging challenges relevant to freedom of expression online?

Policing in the Internet is the major trouble at present. The regulatory architecture is not also user friendly. The political authoritative domination and suppression to the political opposite and human rights defenders become common to the States while regulations should be user friendly. However, hate speech, surveillance and censorship, content blocking are the major challenges for freedom of expression.

7. How can legislation in a diverse range of fields which impacts on the Internet respect freedom of expression in line with international standards?

International standards are not fully respected and practiced by the country. So there must be a bundling principle for the State to maintain intl standard and also this should be lined up with legislation.

8. Is there a need for specific protections for freedom of expression for the Internet?

Specific protection for the Internet is not necessary. In case of urgency, if such issue arise, there should be a priority notice circulating the specific reason among the public and also declaring why it is necessary. But in general there should not be any protection.

Governments usually use national security, public order as rhetoric to control internet. There should clear limit and explanation for security and public order etc.

9. To what extent do laws protect digitally interfaced journalism and journalistic sources?

Laws can do to some extent only

10. What are the optimum ways to deal with online hate speech? How can Media and Information Literacy empower users to understand and exercise freedom of expression on the Internet?

Literacy is needed to understand and exercise freedom of expression on the Internet. However, ethics and moral standard should be maintained to deal with online hate speech. In regard to hate speech dealings, some measures should be introduced by the intl community and governments.

11. What are the optimum systems for independent self-regulation by journalistic actors and intermediaries in cyberspace?

Intermediaries work under regulatory framework of countries and they have little to do when their businesses are put in threats by the State. Self regulation also depends on individual's choice and concerns.

12. What principles should ensure respect for the right to privacy?

In many countries there are right to privacy laws to uphold citizens' right to data privacy. However, in many countries there is no regulatory measures. So right to privacy laws, privacy commission must be introduced. Besides, there are international covenants and constitutional obligations which should be respected.

13. What is the relationship between privacy, anonymity and encryption?

There is relationship to protect user's content from the abuse by encryption. There is strong relation among them.

14. What is the importance of transparency around limitations of privacy?

Privacy doesn't hamper transparency. Privacy is individual's rights.

15. What kinds of arrangements can help to safeguard the exercise of privacy in relation to other rights?

Privacy and other associated rights are guaranteed in UDHR, constitutions; and also by policy and laws of the countries where it is in place. It depends on the nature of the rule of law and party in power.

16. How can openness and transparency of data be reconciled with privacy?

Privacy is individual's right and openness and transparency matter in relation to governance process of country or institution. There are specifications already regard to reconciliation and challenges remain still. Better understanding and measures can help this.

17. What may be the impact of issues relating to big data on respect for privacy?

It depends on the types and nature and functionality of big data. So, impact also depends on. For the greater interest of the public, privacy should be reconciled here but respect for privacy must be entertained,

18. How can security of personal data be enhanced?

A great challenge in virtual realm. Encryption is one of the ways though. Security of the personal data can be enhanced through proper education and introduction of new software,

19. How can Media and Information Literacy be developed to assist individuals to protect their privacy?

There should be dialogue and workshop on the issue to protect privacy. In general there is lack of understanding on the issues in the global south. Dialogue and advocacy measures can help to overcome the challenges.

20. How can ethical principles based on international human rights advance accessibility, openness, and multi-stakeholder participation on the Internet?

Global advocacy can advance this on the Internet

21. What conceptual frameworks or processes of inquiry could serve to analyse, assess, and thereby inform the choices that confront stakeholders in the new social uses and applications of information and knowledge?

No specific conceptual framework is yet all out functional. It should be brought into notice to the public and state level including all stakeholders.

22. How does ethical consideration relate to gender dimensions of the Internet?

It is very important. Ethical consideration must be emphasized realizing the gender dimension of the internet.

23. How can ethics, - i.e. the simultaneous affirmation of human rights, peace, equity, and justice - inform law and regulation about the Internet?

Regulation of the Internet must respect human rights, peace, equity, and justice - inform law and regulation about the Internet.

24. What international, regional and national frameworks, normative guidelines and accountability mechanisms exist of relevance to one or more fields of the study?

These are relevant. Intl covenants, UDHR, country privacy law where exist, ICT Act etc , are relevant but there is an absence of accountability mechanism regarding practicing it.

25. How do cross-jurisdictional issues operate with regard to freedom of expression and privacy?

Respect to human rights overall, and respect to democratic practice and individual choice and personal information protection measures can be operative.

26. What are the intersections between the fields of study: for example, between access and freedom of expression; ethics and privacy; privacy and freedom of expression; and between all four elements?

the interactions are well mentioned and perfectly well manner in the Study.

27. What pertinent information materials exist that cut across or which are relevant to the four fields of the study?

There are strong relevance of the fields as they are inter connected and applicable regarding online regime.

28. What might be the options for role of UNESCO within the wider UN system in regard to the distinct issues of online Access to information and knowledge, Freedom of Expression, Privacy and Ethical dimensions of the information society?

29. What might be options for the role of UNESCO in relation to stakeholders outside the UN system?

30. For each study field, what specific options might UNESCO Member States consider?